

## It's a Family Here

Good Shepherd Academy families enjoyed the second annual Ice Cream Social on August 31 in the GSA gym. Excitement was heard from one end of the hallways to another as classmates and friends hugged and shouted with glee as they greeted one another. "What better way to start the school year than with a warm get-together. Throw in some ice cream for sharing and you'll surely have some fun conversations to go around", stated Rose Sartaguda of the Belleville Patch. Over and over again parents and children were heard to say, "This is so much fun!" "I hope we do this every year!"

The purpose of the Ice Cream Social is to bring the families together once again and to give them the opportunity to see how we prepare our building for the students each summer and to show off some of the improvements we've made.

Sr. Jane acknowledged the maintenance director, Miguel Patino who built computer counters in the kindergarten through fifth grade classrooms so the students could easily make use of the many computers available to them. He also made various repairs, and installed a new restroom for the faculty on the first floor. Roberto Patino and John D'Aiuto were also recognized for stripping, washing and waxing, and buffing all the floors.

Terri Mascolo spends her summer cleaning windows and dusting *behind, above and below* furniture instead of preparing lunches. She did, however teach the students in the Summer Fun program how to make delicious desserts!

And of course, our "always helpful" secretary, Mrs. Barbara Leo, very rarely left her desk, computer, copier, or door button!

After tours of the academy building the ice cream was finally served and only interrupted when the banner was displayed and presented to the Girl's Varsity Basketball team and coaches for gaining the Summer League Championship.

In the words of a teacher and grandparent, the school community of Good Shepherd Academy can be described as, "It's a Family Here!"

***Have a great year GSA administration,  
faculty, staff, parents and students!***

## Summer Fun @ GSA

On June 27th the Summer Fun @ GSA program began for students in grades K—4. For six happy weeks the children enjoyed small and large group games; arts and crafts; science projects; library activities; and just enough math and reading to keep their facts sharp and fresh for the new school year. One child told the teacher, "This summer school is fun because we learn things!"

Under the direction of Mrs. Anita Riccardelli, our first grade teacher, the students were able to enjoy the program for the mornings from 9—11:30, afternoons from 12:30—3:00, or a full day of activities for as little as a few days a week or for the full six weeks. Some children stayed with Ms. Rita, one of our Extended Care personnel.

**GSA Volley Ball and Soccer** teams are practicing for their season games which begin later in October. Come out to cheer on our athletes. Game dates will be announced.

## What's Happening at GSA?

### The Reading Connection

The monthly newsletter for kindergarten to third grade students and parents.

≈ ≈

### Book Club

Fourth and fifth graders are invited to join Mrs. Lopreiato, 5th gr. teacher, to discuss thoughts about the assigned book they read. Sometimes art activities are part of the fun.

≈ ≈

### Classroom Emergency Phones

Each classroom will have an emergency phone which was made possible through a Stewardship Grant from the Archdiocese of Newark. The Extended Care room phone will be available for outside phone calls between 2:00 and 6:00pm only. The Extension is 105.

≈ ≈

### Tuesdays with GSA

All Academy communication and notices will now be sent home in students' GSA folders on Tuesdays only, starting in the month of October. Later this year we are hoping to communicate via the Website only. Stay tuned, as they say!

≈ ≈

### Religion Club

All middle school students (grs. 6-8) are invited to discuss religion topics in preparation for the Newark Archdiocesan *Catholic Challenge* program. Mrs. Metallo, middle school math and 8th grade religion teacher, will moderate the club.

## This Month's Curriculum News

### Anti—Bullying Program

Students in grades one through eight are participating in a six week anti-bullying program sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Newark Archdiocese. Students will learn:

- How to recognize the difference between bullying and normal conflict
- The difference between passive, aggressive, and assertive behavior
- Using "I" messages
- Telling or Tattling, Reporting or Ratting (When it is appropriate to tell an adult)
- Bystander strategies (What to do if you witness bullying, how to help)
- Conflict Resolution Steps: The Win/Win Guidelines

This curriculum has been created by the NJ State Bar Foundation.

### Holy Family

#### NEW DATES

September 29, 30, Oct. 1  
**Annual Italian Festival.**  
Starts at 6pm.

Liturgical Changes **Adult Education Sessions** 7:45–9:00 St. Anthony Room:  
Mondays Oct. 17, 24, Nov. 7 and 14.  
Tuesday Oct. 11, Nov. 1 and 8.

### HSA NEWS

Halloween Costume Sale  
Www.wholesalesoctrumeclub.com  
Promo Code GSA1

Sept. 29 Signed Service Contracts Due

October 5 at 7pm First HSA Meeting

Oct. 31 1pm Trunk or Treat

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**  
KEEP THEM COMING!

### St. Mary's

**Scripture Study** - every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Parish Center.

September 27 **Christian Foundations for Ministry** begins Tuesdays for 8 weeks. Call (973) 235-1100 to participate.

Oct 1st, 2pm - **Blessing of the Animals** in playground.

### MARKETING NEWS

GSA Marketing Meetings have been taking place throughout the year. We thank everyone in the committee for their continued support. They also participated in a strategic planning session conducted by Laura Cristiano, Archdiocese of Newark Director of Marketing. More information will be given at the Back to School Night Oct. 5th.

### World Language

We are happy to announce a new program at GSA: This September GSA added Spanish to its curriculum. Spanish classes have started for grades six to eight this trimester. Grades one through five will be added throughout the year. Our goal is to have our students immersed in a fun and educational curriculum that will serve as a base for their future years. The teacher Mrs. Pita, is a language major and parent of Raquel in second grade.

### Mount Carmel

October 2 at 2pm **Blessing of Animals** in parking lot.

October 5 at 7pm Choir practice begins.

October 12 at 7pm YANA (You Are Not Alone) **Bereavement Support Group** meets in Parish Hall.

### ALUMNI NEWS

GSA Alumni Committee members held their second meeting on Wednesday, September 14th. The committee is now preparing a mailing list so that an Alumni Newsletter can be sent to the alums to let them know about the exciting events taking place at GSA. If you are an alum wishing to be on the committee can contact the office at 973-667-2049.

## GSA PRIDE!!

The Girls' Varsity Basketball ended their Summer League games with a perfect record and became the Summer League Champs!

Thanks girls!

≈ ≈

Joshua Yanicak entered the Summer *Higher Achievement Program* (HAP) and won best in Math and was also named MVP in volleyball.

## Welcome to our New Families!

Baldevarona Family  
Bertiz Family  
Capezio Family  
Carragher Family  
Romero Castillo Family  
Castro Family  
Cepeda Family  
Choudhury Family  
Dy Family  
Dyszkiewicz Family  
Angel Gonzalez Family  
Jesus Gonzalez Family  
Jackson Family  
Leonard Family  
Mathew Family  
Moreno Family  
Pawar Family  
Peralta Family  
Pineda Family  
Robertello Family  
Joe Rodriguez Family  
Santos Family  
Yan Family  
Vera Family  
Volpe Family  
Zavala Family